

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: KCX-120 (14300)
03768/09314

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jimenez, <i>et al.</i>)	Group Art Unit: 1731
)	
Serial No.: 09/734,097)	Examiner: José A. Fortuna
)	
Filed: December 11, 2000)	Deposit Account: 50-2548
For: Opacity Enhancement of Tissue)	
Products With Thermally)	
Expandable Microspheres)	

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Dear Sir:

A Request for Continued Examination is hereby being filed with the present Amendment in reply to the outstanding Final Office Action dated August 13, 2002. A Notice of Appeal was filed in this case on February 6, 2003, together with the required three-month extension of time request and fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 to extend the period of response to February 13, 2003. Please consider the present Request for Continued Examination as a request to withdraw the case from appeal.

The Notice of Appeal was received by the USPTO on February 11, 2003, thus making the Appeal Brief due on April 11, 2003. Therefore, a three-month extension of time is being requested hereby and the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 is being filed herewith to make the present Request for Continued Examination due on July 11, 2003. If any further extension of time or additional fees for the accompanying response

are required, Applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required to Deposit Account 50-2548.